

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is in response to the Final Office Action mailed June 24, 2005. In the Office Action, claim 15 was objected, but noted that it contains patentable subject matter. Applicants acknowledge the objection, and have applied the patentable subject matter to newly drafted claims for consideration by the Examiner. Claim 15 has been cancelled without prejudice.

In summary, claims 1-25 have been cancelled and claims 26-46 have been added. Reconsideration in light of the amendments and remarks made herein is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 17, 18, and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Lee (U.S. Patent No 6,535,493). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection because a *prima facie* case of anticipation has not been established for independent claim 17. However, claim 17 has been cancelled without prejudice and claims 26-46 have been added. Applicants believe that the above-identified independent claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider these claims.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1, 3, 4, 8-10, 11, 13, 14, 16 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection because a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established. However, claims 1, 3, 4, 8-10, 11 13, 14, 16 and 25 have been cancelled without prejudice. Applicants believe that claims 26-46 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the allowability of all of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the remarks made above, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims define the subject invention over the prior art of record. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that all the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is believed that such contact would further the examination of the present application. To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 02-2666 and please credit any excess fees to such account.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: October 24, 2005

By


William W. Schaal

Reg. No. 39,018

Tel.: (714) 557-3800 (Pacific Coast)

12400 Wilshire Boulevard, Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 CFR 1.8A)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being:

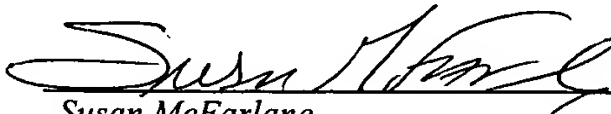
MAILING

FACSIMILE

☒ deposited with the United States Postal Service
as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450,
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

☐ transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and
Trademark Office.

Date: 10/24/2005


Susan McFarlane

10/24/2005

Date